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## EDITORIAL

# The consequences of Covid-19 in terms of public health for the year 2022: New challenges



What will the year 2022 be made of? While the Covid-19 pandemic seems to be settling into a kind of relative chronicity, the consequences in terms of public health and biopolitics are now immense. What are the emergencies?

In Lebanon, cancer patients are going through a real ordeal: the national economic crisis (and the recent devaluation of the Lebanese pound) makes payment for care inaccessible, which is less and less reimbursed. To the inflation of the costs of drugs and hospitalization was added the exodus of doctors and nurses. The entire health sector, on the brink of disappearance, has been dragged into the country's economic collapse. The consequence? Many patients have stopped their treatment and are now awaiting death.

In Afghanistan, the arrival of the Taliban to power is accompanied by an inexorable decline in women's rights: education, access to rights and health care, individual freedoms. What will be the demographic, health, population and human consequences? How could this country survive with such intolerance and such indignity?

All over the world, the woke movement, initially deemed to consist of a progressive criticism in the fields of racial and sexual equality, shows its flaws: this offensive secularism is criticized for its intolerance, its excesses, its authoritarianism. Henceforth, wokism is now considered as a pejorative current: those who are engaged in anti-racist, feminist, LGBT+ or environmental struggles are now interpreted as “caricatural” political currents which nevertheless claim to be in the deepening of democratic principles. The consequences in terms of access to health, equal opportunities, intellectual exchanges and skills, are innumerable.

In Israel, anti-Covid-19 vaccination is experiencing a real paradigm shift. While this country was the first in the world to offer a fourth dose of vaccination, at the instigation of scientific advice, it was decided to delay. The omicron variant, clearly more contagious than its predecessors, but visibly less dangerous on the lesion and clinical level, could it, by its intense diffusion, achieve the collective immunity so awaited?

The year 2022 will be marked by new challenges. It is proper for man to survive, to overcome obstacles. Beyond global warming and the current intense Covid-19 linked disturbances, will the human species be able to survive for a long time?

## Disclosure of interest

The author declares that he has no competing interest.

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